

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

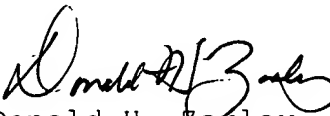
Claims 12 and 14 have been allowed in this application. Claims 1-11 and 13 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wright et al. The Examiner has stated that claims 15 and 16 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. In response, Applicant has cancelled claims 1-11 and 13. Further, Applicant has rewritten claim 15 in independent form, including all of the limitations of base claim 7. Finally, Applicant has amended claim 16 to make it dependent upon claim 15. Applicant believes that these amendments overcome the Examiner's rejection and place the application in position for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests favorable action.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant believes claims 12 and 15-16 are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests allowance of such claims. If any issues remain that may be expeditiously addressed in a telephone interview, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at 515/558-0200.

Any fees or extensions of time believed to be due in connection with this amendment are enclosed herein; however, consider this a request for any extension inadvertently omitted, and charge any additional fees to Deposit Account No. 50-2098.

Respectfully submitted,


Donald H. Farley

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Appl. No. 09/883,768
Reply to O.A. of November 19, 2003

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